



Univerza v Novém městě
University of Nové Město

**MASTER'S STUDY PROGRAMME 2nd CYCLE
TECHNOLOGIES AND SYSTEMS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

implemented by University of Nové Město
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

KAZALO

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1 GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Study programme:	Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering
Cycle:	second
Klasius SRV:	No. 17003 - master's education
Duration:	2 years
ECTS amount:	120 ECTS
Klasius P-16:	No. 0715 - Metallurgy, mechanical engineering, metal work
Research area (Frascati classification)	technical sciences
SOK (Slovenian classification framework)	level 8
EOK (European classification framework)	level 7
EOVK (European higher education classification framework)	second level
Accreditation:	NAKVIS, decision No. 6033-341/2009/13 of 17 February 2011, amendments adopted at the UNMFS Senate meeting on 17 December 2020 and the UNM Senate meeting on 22 December 2020

2 FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND COMPETENCES

2.1 Fundamental objectives of the study programme

The master's degree programme allows for the deepening and broadening of knowledge in the professional and scientific fields, applying scientific research methods in solving technical and technological problems, with a special emphasis on competence in interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary work. Graduates will be able to assume responsibility in managing complex production processes and systems.

With a modernly designed programme that draws its study content largely from the most current scientific research findings, and by encouraging students' creativity and independent research work, we will train high-quality and quickly adaptable masters with a strong vision for the sustainable development of society.

The objective of the programme is to train a technical graduate capable of developing technologies and systems with high added value in a specific workplace suitable for the Slovenian economy and non-economy. In this context, flexibility in adapting general

theoretical principles to practical needs is of key importance. Therefore, the programme focuses on the acquisition of in-depth general knowledge in the field of study of technical sciences and the transfer of this knowledge to individual specific application areas (technologies, systems, construction and energy).

The fundamental objectives of the programme are to educate and train masters for:

- immediate employment in highly demanding jobs as technologist, constructor or energy engineer,
- continuation of studies in the third cycle - in doctoral study programmes,
- direct involvement in research and development work in national and international projects.

2.2 General competences

In designing the bachelor and master degree programmes, we have precisely described the competencies of the profile of the first and second cycle graduates. The general competencies that the student develops during the course of the study include:

- the ability to carry out independent and creative research and development work in the field of mechanical engineering,
- the ability to independently monitor and critically evaluate the latest achievements in the field of mechanical engineering and beyond,
- the ability to communicate actively, both orally and in writing, at a high professional level and, depending on the target audience, at a popular level
- the ability to work in a team with experts from different fields,
- the ability to effectively use information and communication technologies,
- the ability to take responsibility for one's own professional and personal development,
- the ability to act in accordance with professional, environmental, social and ethical responsibilities.

2.3 Course-specific competences

The graduate of the second cycle study programme will be an expert with a broad and in-depth theoretical and methodological knowledge to solve very demanding problems in the planning, management and implementation of technological processes, products, development and research tasks in the field of mechanical engineering and technology in the broadest sense of the word. The study programme with obligatory courses, elective modules and elective courses allows students to acquire a base of universal knowledge in three areas of technology, which are very important for the sustainable development of society.

Course-specific competencies are listed separately for each syllabus. They can also be summarised in the following paragraphs:

- knowledge, understanding and ability to apply modern development and research methods and tools for analysis, synthesis and optimisation of technologies and systems in mechanical engineering,
- knowledge, understanding and attention to the principles of ergonomics and sustainable development and the use of sustainable technologies in mechanical engineering,
- knowledge, understanding and mastery of physical, chemical and mathematical laws, methods and tools for use in mechanical engineering,
- knowledge, understanding and ability to plan and use digitalisation and automation in all stages of product development, production and management of processes and systems in mechanical engineering,
- knowledge, understanding and ability to use quality management at all levels of product development, technologies and systems and their application in the field of mechanical engineering,
- the ability to link knowledge across disciplines and develop a multidisciplinary approach to solving engineering challenges in the field of mechanical engineering,
- knowledge and understanding of the interdependence of various skills and processes and the importance of using technical literature and digital methods and systems to effectively solve engineering problems,
- knowledge, understanding and ability to use modern numerical methods and procedures and virtual prototyping of products in a multi-physical environment to solve mechanical engineering problems,
- knowledge of the structure and properties of modern metal, ceramic, polymer, composite and smart materials,
- the ability to evaluate products, technologies and systems in mechanical engineering according to technological-technical, economic and sustainability criteria,
- the mastery of methods and tools for modeling, analysis and synthesis of technologies and systems in the field of mechanical engineering and for solving engineering problems in practice,
- the ability to independently and creatively solve real engineering problems using theory, techniques and implementation of innovative problem solving in a virtual environment in the field of mechanical engineering,
- the ability to transfer knowledge from the field of mechanical engineering to the wider economic and social environment.

3 INFORMATION ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY OF THE PROGRAMME

In designing a study of the international comparability of the master's study programme in *Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering* with other related study programmes, in accordance with Article 49 of the Higher Education Act (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 119/06 and No. 64/08) and Article 8 of the Criteria for Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions and Study Programmes (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 101/04), we considered the following:

- comparability of the conceptual, formal and content structure with foreign programmes;
- comparability of access and enrolment conditions for ;
- comparability of the duration of studies, the progress, the completion of studies and the titles acquired;
- comparability of the methods and forms of study (system and organisation of the study process, credit system, the use of modern information technologies, an independent study, tutoring, etc.);
- possibilities for integrating the study programme into international cooperation (mobility) or into the common European Higher Education Area;
- differences between the proposed and foreign study programmes according to the specific needs and conditions of the domestic economy and public service.

When evaluating the comparability of the 2nd cycle study programme *Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering* with recognised study programmes, we took into account the requirement that the evaluation must be based on a comparison of the proposed study programme with at least three foreign study programmes from several countries and that at least two of them must be from the countries of the European Union. Each of the three selected foreign programmes is properly accredited or recognised in the country where it is carried out.

For the analysis of international comparability, we examined a number of related study programmes in European higher education. For the international comparison of the 2nd cycle study programme proposal, *Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering*, we selected related study programmes from recognised higher education institutions: Technische Universität München - Fakultät für Maschinenwesen, Delft University of Technology in Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien).

Table 1: Higher education institutions and comparable programmes

Higher education institutions	Study programme	City	Country	Institution's website
Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien)	M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering (Maschinenbau)	Wien	Austria	http://www.tuwien.ac.at
Technische Universität München (TUM) Fakultät für Maschinenwesen	Masterstudiengang Maschinenwesen	München	Germany	http://www.mw.tum.de
Delft University of Technology (TU Delft)	M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering (Werktuigbouwkunde)	Delft	The Netherlands	http://www.tudelft.nl

The proposed programme is comparable to second-level study programmes in the field of technical sciences according to the Isced classification. All the study programmes included in the comparison follow the guidelines of the Bologna Declaration and are accredited by the relevant national bodies. They are comparable in terms of concept, formal and substantive structure, scope of organised and individual study work, forms and methods of pedagogical work, research work, integration into the European Credit System (ECTS), enrolment conditions, conditions for advancement and completion of studies.

All three programmes emphasise advanced scientific and technological knowledge in the field of knowledge of modern technologies and systems in mechanical engineering. Considering the fundamental objective of UNM FME, which is to educate professionals capable of adopting and developing the latest technologies and systems in the future, to support the development of the Slovenian economy, the decision to make a comparison with such programmes was absolutely necessary. The comparison with the mentioned universities was not the only one we made, we also compared the content and structure of the programme with some other universities, e.g. TU Graz, ETH Zürich (which run only 3-semester master programmes), as well as the University of Zagreb (Croatia) and Università di Udine (Italy), as two universities in close geographical proximity.

The second cycle study programme *Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering* is internationally comparable in terms of concept, formal and substantive structure, enrolment conditions, duration of studies, conditions for completing studies, title obtained, methods and forms of studies. The study programme is evaluated in accordance with the European credit point system ECTS. The comparison has shown that the study programme fulfils the requirements for high-quality international cooperation (mobility) or integration into the common European higher education area and enables equal integration of master students into the European labour market.

4 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE INSTITUTION

On 11 December 2013, the University of Novo mesto Faculty of Mechanical Engineering received the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education – ECHE (document number: 261608-EPP-1-2014-1-SI-EPPKA3-ECHE) for the period 2014 - 2020 by the executive agency EACEA (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency). This allows the faculty to participate in the Erasmus+ programme and enter into inter-institutional cooperation agreements with higher education institutions from other countries, which provides opportunities for international mobility of staff and students.

Some of the higher education teachers of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Novo mesto are involved in the pedagogical process at foreign higher education institutions as visiting professors. On the other hand, university teachers from foreign institutions (e.g. the University of Slavonski Brod, the University of Sever from Koprivnica, the University of Trieste, the Faculty of Technical Sciences of the University of Novi Sad) participate as guest lecturers in the study programmes of various levels of study at our faculty.

The faculty also strengthens international cooperation with foreign higher education institutions through mutual co-mentorships in the final works of our and foreign partner institutions, the contents of which can form the basis for the development of joint projects in the future.

The faculty has signed agreements on cooperation in the field of teaching and scientific research with many institutions at home and abroad.

5 CURRICULUM AND ECTS (CREDIT POINTS) VALUES

The study programme is designed in accordance with the provisions of the Higher Education Act and the criteria for accreditation of study programmes. It is evaluated according to the Criteria for credit evaluation of study programmes according to ECTS.

The second cycle (master) of the study programme *Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering* is an upgrade and deepening of the first degree study programme *Technologies and Systems*. Within the total obligations of the students', 28.30% of the study time is devoted to organised study work.

The emphasis of the student workload is on individual study work, which is based on the set objectives and general and course-specific competencies. The programme places great emphasis on research work.

5.1 Number and name of learning units

The following table shows the list of courses with the names of the learning units, the annual or total number of hours of the student's study obligations and the annual, total number of organised total or contact hours of the programme and credit evaluation according to ECTS.

The study programme lasts two academic years or four semesters. It comprises 3,600 hours (120 ECTS) and includes organised forms of study work and individual student work. It consists of a common and an elective part. The common part is carried out in the first year and includes 9 courses (60 ECTS) and 3 courses (16 ECTS) in the second year. It is obligatory for all students.

The elective part of the programme takes place in the second year and includes an elective module with three courses (18 ECTS), one elective course (6 ECTS) and a master's thesis (20 ECTS). An important part of the programme is focused on the development of competences in the field of research work. It includes 1 obligatory course (4 ECTS), fundamental, applied or developmental as research assignments in all subjects of study and a master's thesis (20 ECTS), i.e. a total of 24 ECTS.

5.2 Elective part of the programme

The programme allows the student to plan an individualised course of study. The student can choose from the elective units offered by the faculty, amounting to 44 ECTS. Elective modules and elective courses, as well as a master's thesis open up elective possibilities.

5.2.1 Elective modules

Elective modules are units with rounded content and represent an elective part of the study programme. They represent an upgrade and deepening of fundamental and also acquisition of specialised knowledge. The student selects one of the modules. There will be as many elective modules as the number of groups in seminar tutorials would be if only one module was implemented.

The programme includes three modules: *Innovative Technologies in Mechanical Engineering*, *Innovative Systems in Mechanical Engineering and Sustainable Technologies and Systems*. Each module consists of three courses totaling 18 ECTS.

5.2.2 Elective courses

Elective courses in the second year of study allow students to design their own study programme in accordance with individual needs. They choose one elective course (6 ECTS), which they can take at the parent institution or at any second level programme in Slovenia or abroad.

6 TYPE AND PROPORTION OF LEARNING UNITS ACCORDING TO THEIR INCLUSION IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

The study programme lasts two years, i.e. four semesters. The first year consists of 9 common study courses (60 ECTS). The second year consists of: 3 common study subjects (16 ECTS), one elective module with three subjects (18 ECTS), 1 elective course (6 ECTS) and a master's thesis (20 ECTS).

6.1 The ratio of lectures, seminars tutorials and other organised forms of study

Forms of study work are: lectures, tutorials, laboratory tutorials and individual student work (preparation for examinations, study of professional literature and preparation, recording, presentation and defence of fundamental, applied, developmental research tasks).

The programme comprises 3600 hours (120 ECTS), including 1800 hours (60 ECTS) per year. Organised study work comprises 28.33%, of which 14.58% are lectures, 12.08% are laboratory tutorials and 1.67% are tutorials (lecture hall tutorials). Individual student work accounts for 71.67% of the entire programme.

6.1.1 Organized study work

6.1.1.1. Lectures

They are an organized form of study work that is carried out with the entire group of students. In lectures, the lecturer imparts basic knowledge and the latest findings in his/her profession, encourages students to actively participate and critically reflect and use modern learning and teaching methods.

6.1.1.2. Laboratory work

Laboratory exercises are led by habilitated higher education teachers and higher education associates. The work takes place in groups of 15 students. In the laboratory, students consolidate and deepen the theoretical knowledge they have acquired and become familiar with the methods of research work.

6.1.1.3. Tutorials

They are an organized form of study work, which takes place in groups of 30 students. In tutorials, students solve concretely set problems using the knowledge and procedures acquired in the lectures and through self-study. In accordance with the curriculum, a fundamental, applied or developmental research assignment is prepared, presented and defended in written form individually or in a team.

6.1.1.4. Seminar (fundamental, applied or developmental research) assignment

The assignment is an independent work by the student (ISW), prepared under the guidance of a mentor. It deals with a concrete professional problem from the field of

technologies and systems in mechanical engineering, with a proposal for its solution. In doing so, the student proves that he/she is capable of seriously considering and investigating a practical professional problem, using ICT as a source of information and mastering selected methodological tools for problem solving.

6.1.1.5. Master's thesis

This is an independent professional work that the candidate prepares under the guidance of a mentor. It must contain theoretical starting points and their verification in the independent research of current problems in the field of technologies and systems in mechanical engineering.

In working on the chosen topic, the candidate must systematically present the results of his/her research using appropriate research instruments. The candidate must demonstrate the ability to elaborate and solve in writing current practical problems of the economy, companies, services, activities, institutions, institutions or any specific problem.

The prerequisite for applying for a master's thesis topic is the fulfilment of study obligations amounting to 100 ECTS.

The procedure, method of preparation and defence of the master's thesis is specified in a special set of rules.

6.2 Practical training within the programme, implementation and ECTS

Practical training in a direct business environment is not part of the study programme.

7 ACCESS REQUIREMENTS AND CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF CANDIDATES IN THE EVENT OF ENROLMENT RESTRICTIONS

7.1 Access requirements for the first year of the master's study programme:

According to Article 38a of the Higher Education Act, anyone who has completed a:

- first cycle study programme (180 ECTS) in technical sciences, production technologies, architecture and construction, computer science, environmental protection, physics;
- first cycle study programme (180 ECTS) from other unrelated fields. For these applicants, there are obligations of up to 30 ECTS from the 1st cycle study programme *Technologies and Systems*, which they must fulfil prior to enrolment;
- higher education professional study programme, accepted before 11 June 2004, in technical sciences, production technologies, architecture and construction, computer science, environmental protection and physics;
- higher education professional study programme accepted before 11 June 2004, in other unrelated fields. These applicants will be assigned up to 30 credits of the

1st cycle study programme *Technologies and Systems*, which must be completed before enrollment.

7.2 Requirements for enrollment in the 2nd year

Graduates of four-year university programmes (240 ECTS) in technical sciences, production technologies, architecture and construction, computer science, environmental protection and physics can enroll in the second year.

Candidates who have completed the first cycle (undergraduate study programme) abroad are enrolled under the same conditions.

7.3 Criteria for selection in the event of enrollment restriction

In case of enrolment restriction, candidates are selected on the basis of the average grade of the first cycle (70%) and the grade of the diploma thesis (30%).

8 CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION OF SKILLS AND COMPETENCES GAINED BEFORE ENROLMENT

The institute regulates the procedure for the identification, verification, validation and recognition of knowledge acquired by candidates through formal and informal education and/or casual learning, with the rules for the recognition of knowledge and skills. The procedures are managed by the Commission for the Recognition of Knowledge and Skills Acquired before Enrollment, which submits a draft decision to the Dean of the faculty, and the Dean issues a final decision.

The faculty recognises knowledge and training that corresponds, in whole or in part, to the general or course-specific competences of the master's study programme in *Technologies and Systems in Mechanical Engineering*. Knowledge and training acquired formally, informally and through experiential learning will be recognised. The number of credit points is approved on the basis of the individual applications and the documents submitted by the candidate.

Knowledge acquired in this manner can be recognised by the faculty on the basis of the following:

- certificates and other documents of knowledge acquired outside the educational sector (portfolio, documents of completed courses and other forms of continuing education);
- the assessment of products, services, publications and other copyrights of the candidates;
- the verification and assessment of knowledge acquired by the candidate through previous self-education or experience (the possibility of fulfilling academic

obligations such as examinations and interim tests without attending lectures, tutorials and seminars);

- certain parts of the obligations (project assignments, programmes and tutorials) based on the knowledge demonstrated by copyright (projects, inventions, patents and publications);
- appropriate work experience.

Individual documented applications of candidates for the recognition of knowledge acquired prior to enrolment will be handled by the relevant committee in accordance with the procedures and rules for recognition of examinations and other academic obligations and for the recognition of previously acquired knowledge.

Students can request verification and assessment of knowledge if the knowledge was acquired through independent study or experience. The same criteria applies to the recognition of knowledge acquired abroad.

Article 24 of the Rules on Recognition of Knowledge and Skills states that the candidate may present public documents, certificates or other documents showing that they do not exceed a total of 30 ECTS. Otherwise, the commission must set an additional knowledge test, which will be conducted by the appointed higher educational teacher or the assessment committee.

9 ASSESSMENT METHODS

Knowledge assessment is designed to provide higher education teachers and students with ongoing and high-quality information about progress toward and achievement of established competencies/objectives of the study programme. The study programme requires students to work on the job, so knowledge assessment will also be diagnostic, formative and summative. It will take place during and after the implementation of each course. The purpose of assessment is: to evaluate the work of students, to provide feedback on their progress and the results achieved, to enable placement in further education and employment, and to provide data for the evaluation of pedagogical work.

The methods of assessment and verification of knowledge are specified in the syllabus of individual courses and are aligned with the verification of goals achieved in each course, expected academic achievements and the development of general and course-specific competences. Due to the variety of learning and teaching methods, including to ensure validity, reliability and objectivity, higher educational teachers will use different combinations of methods to assess and verify knowledge in each course. Assessment will span all taxonomic levels and will also be interested in the quality structure and organisation of knowledge. The methods of examination and assessment provided are: oral/written examinations, tests, fundamental, applied and developmental research assignments, oral presentations, portfolio, diaries, solving real professional problems, peer assessment, written reports, professional articles, professional papers, master's thesis.

Student obligations are the same for all courses and include: active participation in lectures and tutorials, successfully completed project, fundamental, applied or developmental research assignment with presentation and defence, and a successfully passed examination. The same criteria apply to advanced study programmes.

Table 2: Grading scale aligned with ECTS grading scale

Grade		Grade according to ECTS Criteria		Criteria in %	Description of knowledge
10	odlično	A	excellent	95,6–100 %	Outstanding performance with only minor errors
9	prav dobro	B	very good	84,3–95,5 %	Above-average standard but with some errors
8	prav dobro	C	good	70,8–84,2 %	Generally sound work with a number of notable errors
7	dobro	D	satisfactory	59,6–70,7 %	Fair but with significant shortcomings
6	zadostno	E	sufficient	55–59,5 %	Performance meets the minimum criteria
5 - 1	nezadostno	F	fail	0 – 54,9%	Performance does not meet the minimum criteria
*	uspešno	P	pass	55 – 100%	Performance meets the criteria
*	neuspešno	F	fail	0 – 54,9%	Performance does not meet the criteria

* Pass and fail grades are used to assess knowledge and completed obligations in the master's seminar.

The student is informed orally at the beginning of each course and in writing with the syllabus about the elements of the examination and the assessment criteria.

A student must score at least 55% to receive a passing grade. Grades on the grading scale are converted to the ECTS grading system. The procedures and rules for the verification and assessment of knowledge, as well as the procedures for the recognition of grades and credit points earned in other programmes at the same or another higher education institution, are regulated in a special set of rules.

10 PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAMME

The student can advance to the second year if he/she has fulfilled the study obligations of the first year amounting to at least 44 ECTS.

Individual student can repeat a year once during the study or change the study programme or major as a result of failure in the previous major or study programme. The second year, however, cannot be repeated.

In accordance with Article 70 of the Higher Education Act, a student's status may be extended for a maximum of one year if:

- a student fails to enroll in the higher year for legitimate reasons,
- a student fails to complete his or her studies within 12 months after the end of the last semester for justified reasons,
- a student has a child during her studies.

Depending on academic achievements, the student can complete his/her studies in a shorter time than provided for in the study programme.

11 MODES OF STUDY

The study is carried out as a part-time study. In this case, one year usually completed in one academic year. The study is carried out in accordance with the valid norms according to the study calendar. The pedagogical process takes place in the form of lectures and class and laboratory tutorials, which is also evident from the syllabus.

If, in accordance with the senate's decision, fewer hours of organised study work are carried out than provided for in the curricula, the difference is realised in the form of consultations, which are provided for in the timetable.

In addition to the traditional format, we plan a combined form of study - distance learning for individual learning units or parts of learning units using modern software solutions that enable audio and video communication (Skype, MS Teams, ZOOM, GoToMeeting, Webex and the online classroom Moodle). Defence of project or research assignments, knowledge tests and defence of master's theses will take place at the faculty headquarters with direct communication. The amount of distance learning is up to 70% for individual courses and depends on the number of enrolled students, the number of enrolled foreign students, the distance of the students from the place of education and the employment of students (work in rotations, etc.).

Distance learning allows for greater adaptability, flexibility, time and money savings and ease of access through a modern form of study in a virtual environment.

Higher education teachers are qualified to conduct distance learning because they use audio and video communication in their daily work. Training for the use of the online classroom Moodle is organised for all external colleagues before the beginning of the academic year. Non-teaching staff (employees in the Student Affairs Office, library, accounting..) will not communicate with students in this way, but through direct communication.

12 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE STUDY

The requirements for completing of the studies is the successful completion of all academic obligations prescribed in the programme in the amount of 120 ECTS.

The requirement for completing the studies in case of admission according to the criteria for transfer to the second year of the programme is the successful completion of all study obligations stipulated in the programme of the study to the amount of at least 60 ECTS.

13 PROFESSIONAL TITLE

After completing the studies, the student is rewarded the professional title magister inženir strojništva or magistrica inženirka strojništva; abbreviation mag. inž. str., in accordance with the Article 8 of the Professional and Scientific Titles act (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 61/06).

University of Novo mesto:
Marjan Blažič, PhD, Acad. Prof., Rector